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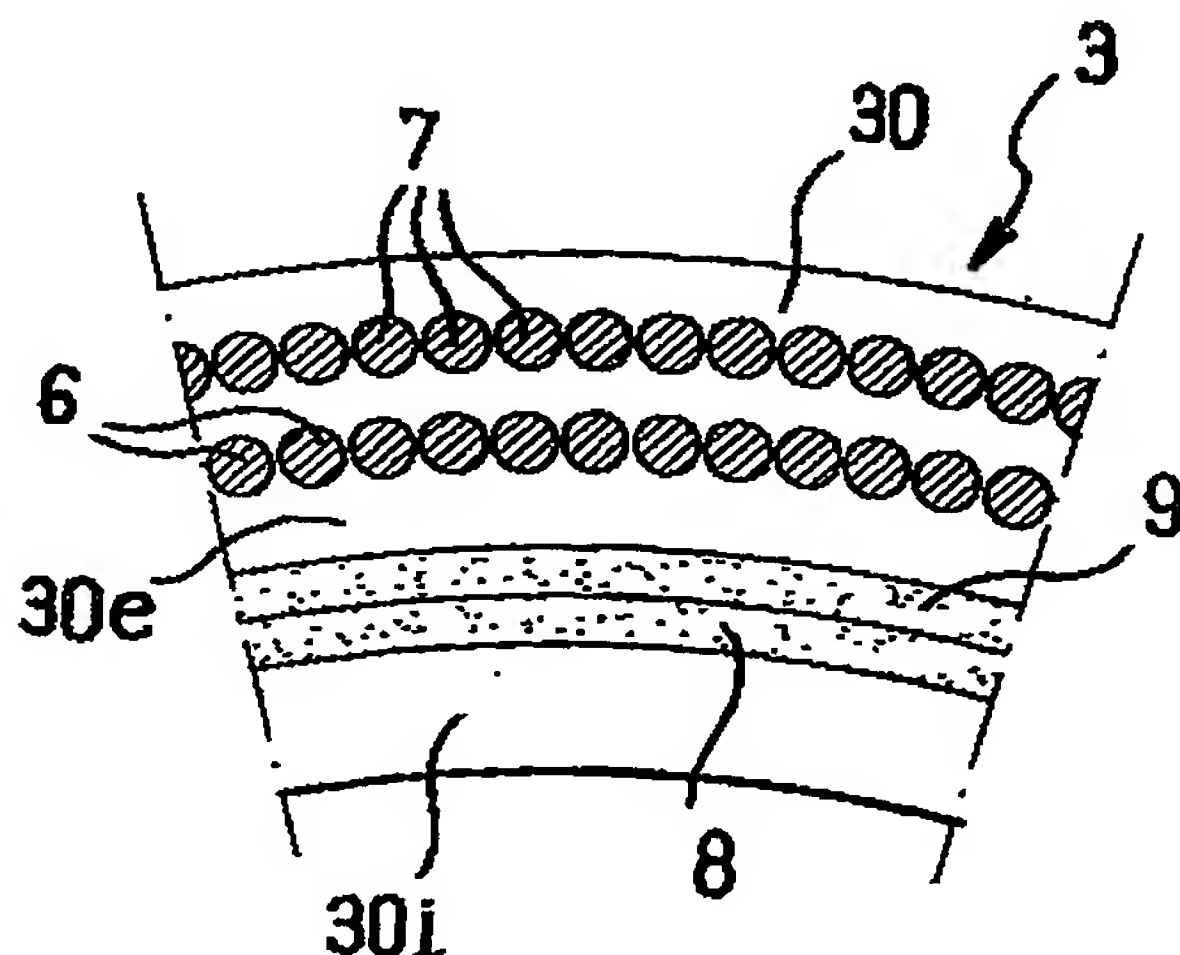
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- (71) Applicant (for FR only): **SERVICES PETROLIERS SCHLUMBERGER** [FR/FR]; 42, rue Saint Dominique, F-75007 Paris (FR).
- (71) Applicants (for AT, AU, AZ, CO, DE, DK, HR, ID, IE, IT, KP, KR, KZ, MX, NO, NZ, PH, PL, RO, RU, SK, ZA only): **SCHLUMBERGER TECHNOLOGY B.V.** [NL/NL]; Parkstraat 83-89, NL-2514 JG The Hague (NL). **SCHLUMBERGER HOLDINGS LIMITED**; P.O. Box 71, Craigmuir Chambers, Road Town, Tortola (VG).
- (71) Applicant (for CA only): **SCHLUMBERGER CANADA LIMITED** [CA/CA]; 525 - 3rd Avenue S.W., Calgary, Alberta T2P 0G4 (CA).
- (71) Applicant (for CN only): **SCHLUMBERGER OVERSEAS S.A.** [PA/PA]; 8 Calle Aquilino de la Guardia, Panama City, Panama (PA).
- (71) Applicant (for AE, OM, SD, SY, TR only): **SCHLUMBERGER OILFIELD ASSISTANCE LIMITED**; Craigmuir Chambers, Road Town, Tortola (VG).
- (71) Applicant (for BR only): **SCHLUMBERGER SURENCO S.A.** [PA/PA]; 8 Calle Aquilino de la Guardia, Panama City, Panama (PA).
- (71) Applicant (for TT only): **SCHLUMBERGER SERVICES LIMITED**; P.O. Box 438, Tortola, British Virgin Islands (VG).
- (71) Applicant (for EG only): **SCHLUMBERGER SEACO INC.** [PA/PA]; 8 Calle Aquilino de la Guardia, Panama City, Panama (PA).
- (71) Applicant (for CG, CM, CZ, DZ, EC, GA, GQ, IN, LT, MA, NA, NE, PG, TD, TN, VN only): **PETROLEUM RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT NV** [NL/NL]; De Ruyterkade 62, Willemstad, Curacao (AN).
- (72) Inventor; and
- (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **SALTEL, Jean-Louis** [FR/FR]; 12, avenue de la Motte, F-35650 Le Rheu (FR).
- (74) Agent: **ETUDES & PRODUCTIONS SCHLUMBERGER**; 1, rue Henri Becquerel - BP 202, F-92142 Clamart Cedex (FR).
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: A SEALING DEVICE FOR TEMPORARILY CLOSING A WELL OR A PIPE



(57) Abstract: The device comprises a tubular membrane (3) of circular section, having a wall (30) of material that is leakproof, flexible, and elastic, e.g. of rubber, and that is inflatable and deformable radially outwards under the action of internal fluid pressure, said membrane (3) being mechanically reinforced by at least one sheet of flexible strands (6, 7); the device is remarkable in that it includes at least one and preferably a pair of adjacent and concentric cylindrical fiber layers (8, 9) embedded in the thickness of the wall (30) inside relative to the sheet of flexible strands (6, 7), and of a structure that acts as an anti-extrusion barrier, limiting creep of the material of the wall (30) and preventing it from passing outwards between said reinforcing wires (6, 7) under the effect of the pressure generated by the inflation fluid. The device serves for temporarily closing the casing of an oil well or a variety of pipes.

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